

Rules Hearing for SD Weed & Pest Control Commission

Thursday, April 9, 2015 - 1 pm, Governor's Inn

The South Dakota Weed & Pest Control Commission met at 1 pm on Thursday, April 9, 2015, at the Governor's Inn, Pierre, SD.

The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a public hearing on the proposed rule 12:62:03:01.07, adopted under the general authority of 38-22-9 and 38-22-11.1.

Hearing Officer: Ryan Darling, Pierre, SD

Members of the Board in Attendance: Lynn Diebert, Herreid; Floyd Muntefering, Parkston; Neil VonEschen, Wagner; Ron Thyen, Hayti; Craig Magedanz, Clear Lake; Ryan Brunner, Pierre; Jason Humphrey, Pierre; Paul Coughlin, Pierre; and Duane Buckmeier, Prairie City.

Others in Attendance: Brandon Beshears, Pierre; Brenda Sievers, Huron; Paul O. Johnson, Brookings; Mike Stenson, Pierre; Dale Anderson, Pierre; Amanda Bachmann, Pierre; Ralph Hammer, Sioux Falls; Donavon Carpenter, Sioux Falls; Gary Pribyl, Wolsey; Nate Jagim, Sturgis; Scott Guffey, Rapid City; and Ron Moehring, Pierre.

Proponents: Oral testimony in favor of Japanese beetle to be added as a locally noxious pest was given by the following:

Scott Guffey, representing Pennington County Weed & Pest Board, read a prepared statement supporting the addition of Japanese beetle to the locally noxious listing.

Nate Jagim, Meade County Weed & Pest Supervisor, voiced concerns as a private citizen since his parents live close to the area affected in Pennington County and also as a weed supervisor, since Meade and Pennington Counties border each other. If Japanese beetle did get in Meade County, it would give them the authority to regulate and control it as well. He supports listing Japanese beetle both for regulatory control and as a private citizen.

Opponents: Oral testimony in opposition to Japanese beetle to be added as a locally noxious pest was given by the following:

Amanda Bachmann, Pesticide Education and Urban Entomology Specialist from SDSU, spoke against adding Japanese beetle to the locally noxious listing. She is not originally from South Dakota but came from Pennsylvania where Japanese beetle has been since the 1920's. Amanda supports the comments that were submitted by Kelley Tilmon from SDSU. Amanda has dealt with many insect pests in South Dakota. While she does agree that Japanese beetle is a pest insect that needs to be managed, it needs to be managed effectively and with an integrated management plan. She does not believe that one early treatment of larvacide that Pennington County is proposing to use in the infected area will be an effective means of control. Amanda talked about the grubs feeding on the roots of plants and will host on 350 plant species. She believes it will still come in on nursery stock and with vehicles and people coming into the area. SDSU Extension provides unbiased information and is not opposed to helping come up with a comprehensive plan to control Japanese beetle, but believes that eradication won't be possible. Since it has an established population, she doesn't believe that eradication is a feasible goal for this pest since it has been around for many years.

Paul O. Johnson provided the Commission with information on Tarragon, both written and oral. Tarragon can come back fast, especially after a fire, but it doesn't appear to dominate for a length of time and other species will take over. It is also used as an herb and is native to the United States. Illinois is looking at putting it on their endangered species list. Paul noted there is no species in the past that we have said had to use a chemical control. For organic producers, there should be other options for them to use.

Written Testimony: Ryan Darling read into the record the written testimony presented.

In favor of Japanese beetle: Pennington County Board of Commissioners; Dennie Mann; Ron Wynia; Tim Forster

In opposition of Japanese beetle: Kelley Tilmon, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Entomology

In favor of Tarragon: Caley Buckert, Custer County Weed & Pest Coordinator

Other Comments:

Paul Coughlin, SD Game Fish & Parks, talked to the GF&P Botanist and Ecologist David Ode. Tarragon is a native plant and in 1804 was found at the mouth of the White River. Tarragon is also native to the European continent. He doesn't feel that it has been much of a problem and they have found no European strain in the Black Hills. Dave and Paul do not feel that Tarragon warrants listing as a locally declared noxious weed. Paul stated that this is the first native plant to be put on the locally noxious weed list. As a Commission member, he thinks this is a dangerous precedent to set by putting a native plant on the locally noxious weed listing.

Nate Jagim made a comment that the Weed & Pest Commission put the Mountain Pine Beetle on the locally noxious pest listing and it is native. Paul Coughlin clarified that he was talking about a native plant on the locally noxious weed listing and this would be the first weed.

Lynn Diebert asked Paul Johnson a question on how many species of Artemisia there are. Paul stated there were many different ones that are in the same family but not the same species.

Ryan Darling asked for any other comments, questions or testimony. Since there was none, the hearing ended at 1:43 pm.

The SD Weed and Pest Control Commission took a voice vote to add Japanese beetle to the locally noxious pest listing with a majority in favor of the addition. Motion carried.

The SD Weed and Pest Control Commission took a voice vote to add Tarragon to the locally noxious weed listing. There were no votes in favor. Motion denied.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Sievers, Plant Industry Program Manager
SD Department of Agriculture